But when, as now in Western and Central Europe, in consequence of a reduction both in the birth- and death-rates, the higher age-divisions, *i.e.* those of a procreative age, come to form a larger percentage of the population, the extent of the decline in fertility is not fully shown. Substituting for the crude birth-rate the fertility-rate in marriage (the number of births within the year to every 1000 married women between the ages of 15 and 45) it will be found that in Berlin that rate has declined from 254 in 1880, to only 65 in 1925; *i.e.* while in 1880 every fourth married woman between 15 and 45 years of age had a child, in 1925 only one in fifteen.

(3) THE RATIONALIZATION OF LIFE AS A CAUSE OF THE DECLINE IN THE BERTH-BATE

There are various causes for the decline of the birth-rate. The biological factor enters only in so far as at present the greater prevalence of venereal diseases increases sterility; it is not known whether in this regard there is any difference between Jews and non-Jews. The percentage of still-born children has not risen, but rather diminished.[1] More importance attaches to social than to biological factors. The transfer of labour from agriculture to industry, and the migration from the villages to the towns, where children start

earning later and are longer a burden upon their parents, is one reason for the smaller size of families—& growth of the urban population results in a reduction of the general birth-rate. Further, in the last two generations the standard of living and the scale of expenditure have risen more particularly in the towns, and people tend to save where it is

[1] With the Jews, the percentage of still-born among the legitimate children is everywhere smaller than with the non-Jews, but is often larger among the illegitimate children. It nowhere exceeds 6 per cent of the aggregate births, and in most cases is only 2-4 per cent; its influence on the birth-rate is therefore small.